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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
Thirty-third session
6-22 October 1993 (Part II)
Agenda item 6

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE SECOND PART OF ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Wolfgang STÖCKL (Germany)

II. PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995

Section 17. Economic Commission for Europe

1. At its 29th meeting, on 18 October 1993, the Committee considered section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

Discussion

2. Several delegations expressed concern that the level of resources did not seem sufficient, particularly taking into account the increased responsibility of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) in relation to the recent developments in the region and its increased membership.

3. A number of delegations supported the proposed programme of its work and the priorities contained therein. Some other delegations questioned the allocation of resources between the priority areas and argued that more resources should have been devoted to trade facilitation.

4. Some delegations expressed concern over the level of vacant posts in the ECE secretariat and its impact on its outputs and requested that urgent measures be taken to fill them.

5. One delegation noted that a substantive part of the proposed ECE activities is aimed at developing and/or updating legal instruments and technical standards which are often of interest to the States Members of the United Nations outside the region.

6. Another delegation expressed concern that Chernobyl-disaster-related problems were not reflected in the programmed activities despite the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council, the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-second session and relevant General Assembly resolutions.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The Committee recommended approval by the General Assembly of the programme narrative of section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.